

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /106 W

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P R 271935Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 993

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVEUR

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3580

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO STUDY OF MILITARY SPECIALIZATION

REFS: A. USNATO 3485 NOTAL; B. USNATO 3416 NOTAL; C. USNATO
3516 NOTAL.

BEGIN SUMMARY: PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO SOLICIT USCINCEUR
ADVICE AND PROPOSAL OF CANDIDATE AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION IN
NATO STUDY OF MILITARY SPECIALIZATION, AS DESCRIBED IN REFS A. AND
B. END SUMMARY.

1. MISSION IS MINDFUL THAT USCINCEUR AND COMPONENT COMMAND
HAVE BEEN PERSISTENTLY PURSUING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS FOR HOST
NATION SUPPORT OF U.S. FORCES AND HAVE IDENTIFIED MANY AREAS
WHERE BI-NATIONAL COMMON/CROSS SERVICE SUPPORT COULD BE
ECONOMICAL AND FRUITFUL.

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2. MISSION HAS AGREED TO PRESENT A PAPER TO THE NATO
SPECIALIZATION EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP ON 4 SEP 73 OFFERING
PROPOSALS FOR SPECIALIZATION IN LOGISTICS. WHILE AWARE OF THE
PITFALLS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY UNDUE U.S. DEPENDENCE ON SUPPORT OF

OTHERS, MISSION BELIEVES SUBJECT STUDY SHOULD BE BROADENED AND PURSUED, PARTICULARLY FROM BURDEN-SHARING STANDPOINT. CONSIDER THAT OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO IDENTIFY AND POINT OUT AREAS WHERE SPECIALIZATION IN LOGISTICS AND SUPPORT BY ALLIES WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL AND PROVIDE MAXIMUM RELIEF TO U.S. IN TERMS OF MANPOWER AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, WITH MINIMUM EFFECT ON U.S. FORCES' ORGANIC COMBAT CAPABILITY. WE SHOULD ALSO IDENTIFY THOSE AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION WHERE U.S. IS OR SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY OR MAJOR PROVIDER OF BROAD AREAS OF MILITARY SPECIALIZATION TO THE ALLIANCE AND AREAS WHERE CURRENT U.S. WEAPON PRODUCTION AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT CAPABILITIES COULD ECONOMICALLY BE EXPANDED TO SUPPORT OTHERS.

COMMENT: WHILE FOREGOING CALLS TO MIND HOST OF NON-STARTERS AND DEAD HORSES, WE CONSIDER THAT THE PRESENT COMBINATION OF PRESSURES IN CONGRESS FOR U.S. FORCE REDUCTIONS AND EUROPEAN ALLIES' FINANCIAL REALITIES MAKE A NEW TOP LEVEL POLITICAL EFFORT WITHIN ALLIANCE FEASIBLE AND PROBABLY ESSENTIAL. REF C. ILLUSTRATES URGENCY BEING GIVEN TO BURDEN-SHARING IN NAC. END COMMENT.

3. REQUEST USCINCEUR ADVICE AND PROPOSALS BE PROVIDED BY 20 AUGUST 1973. USNATO WOULD BE PLEASED TO HOST MEETING WITH USCINCEUR AND COMPONENT COMMANDS REPS ON THAT DATE IF BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION ARE CONSIDERED BEST MEANS FOR PRESENTATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO03580
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS, 12-31-79
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730767/abqcebjb.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 3485 NOTAL; B. USNATO 3416 NOTAL; C. USNATO 3516 NOTAL.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO STUDY OF MILITARY SPECIALIZATION
TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL
To: USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN INFO STATE
SECDEF
JCS
USNMR SHAPE
CINCUSAREUR
CINCUSAFE
CINCUSNAVEUR

USLOSACLANT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005